

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

Digital Repository

Integrated Crop Management News

Agriculture and Natural Resources

6-26-2006

Western bean cutworm flight starts--early!

Marlin E. Rice

Iowa State University, merice@iastate.edu

Follow this and additional works at: <http://lib.dr.iastate.edu/cropnews>



Part of the [Agricultural Science Commons](#), [Agriculture Commons](#), and the [Entomology Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Rice, Marlin E., "Western bean cutworm flight starts--early!" (2006). *Integrated Crop Management News*. Paper 1305.
<http://lib.dr.iastate.edu/cropnews/1305>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Agriculture and Natural Resources at Digital Repository @ Iowa State University. It has been accepted for inclusion in Integrated Crop Management News by an authorized administrator of Digital Repository @ Iowa State University. For more information, please contact digirep@iastate.edu.

INTEGRATED CROP MANAGEMENT

Western bean cutworm flight starts--early!

Adult western bean cutworms were first collected at two locations in Iowa on June 23--the earliest date they have ever been collected in the state. Single adults were captured in blacklight traps near Correctionville (Woodbury County) in western Iowa and Ames (Story County) in central Iowa. A blacklight trap in Boone County captured 19 adults on June 26. A historical look of western bean cutworm captures for Woodbury County is shown in the table.



What these early trap captures suggest is that the moths will be searching for the most mature corn fields in which to lay their eggs. They are attracted to pollinating and silking-stage corn and those fields that are now just beginning to tassel (I have seen one in Story County) should be the most attractive to the adult females. Therefore, any corn that is tasseling during June and is not protected with Herculex® should be closely scouted for western bean cutworm egg masses. According to the University of Nebraska, the economic threshold is eight egg masses per 100 plants.

Thanks to Sara and Ben Linn for operating the blacklight trap and providing the data from Woodbury County.

Five-year blacklight captures of western bean cutworm adults in western Iowa. Woodbury County, 2002-2006.

Western Bean Cutworm Adults

Year	First Capture	Peak Capture	Last Capture	Total
2002	June 28	July 13	August 11	12,739
2003	July 10	August 1	August 17	244
2004	July 5	July 23	August 10	531
2005	June 28	July 13	August 11	1,328
2006	June 23	--	--	--

This article originally appeared on page 189 of the IC-496(17) -- June 26, 2006 issue.

Source URL:

<http://www.ipm.iastate.edu/ipm/icm//ipm/icm/2006/6-26/wbc.html>

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
University Extension